Claims

1. A golf ball retrieval tool comprising an elongate handle (1) which carries at one end a so-called cage (20) which has at its rear end that faces towards the handle (1) a first section (21) and at a part which faces away from said handle a second section (22) which connects with said first section (21), wherein in a first cage orientation of the tool the first cage section has an opening edge (21) which, in said first tool orientation, is generally open downwards and rearwards towards the handle and which is able to freely receive a golf ball, wherein a transit opening (32) connects the first section (21) with the second section (22), wherein the second section includes a downwardly open opening (33) which forms a ball seating, wherein, with the tool in said first cage orientation, the handle extends obliquely downwards beneath the horizontal plane of the cage (22), and wherein the transit opening (32) between said first and said second sections forms a threshold (35) over which the ball must run, **characterized in that** the cage comprises a roof structure which in response to pressing the cage generally vertically against a ball, which is received in the first section, when the tool is in said first cage orientation, generates on the ball a wedging action such as to drive the ball through the transit opening (32) and into the second section (22) where the ball (3) can be received in the ball seating (33).

2. A tool according to claim 1, **characterized in that** the threshold (35,35) is adapted to prevent the ball (3) from rolling from the ball seating (33) into the first cage section essentially until the tool is forced up from said first cage orientation to a position in which the handle is horizontally orientated.

3. A tool according to claim 1 or 2, **characterized in that** the plane of the ball seating opening (33) defines an angle of 20-70 degrees, preferably an angle of about 40 degrees, with the axis (10) of the handle; and in that the edge of the seating opening is elastically resilient so as to be able to widen from a size slightly smaller than the largest ball diameter to a size greater than the ball diameter, so as to enable the ball to be pressed into the second cage section (22) from without, via the seating opening (33).

4. A tool according to any one of claims 1-3, **characterized in that** the ball seating (33) is adapted to position the centre of gravity of the ball (3) beneath the axis of the handle

in said first cage orientation of the tool, such that the weight of the ball will result in torque that tends to rotate the tool about its geometric axis towards said first cage orientation; and in that the cage roof is designed to support the ball in a position in which the centre of gravity of the ball lies beneath the axis of the handle (1) in a second orientation of the tool cage in which said cage has been rotated about said axis through an angle of 180 degrees.